

Technical Bulletin - Thin Brick Code Compliance

General Shale's Old Brick Originals™ thin brick veneer systems when installed as an adhered veneer application comply with the requirements of all current model building codes.



Comply with the following codes:

- 2018 International Building Code (IBC) - (Section 1404.10)
- 2018 International Residential Code (IRC) – (Section 703.12)
- 2016 Building Code Requirements for Masonry Structures, Masonry Standards Joint Committee Code, ACI-530-05/ASCE 5-05/TMS 402-05 (Sections 12.1, 12.3, and Article 3.3.C)

Description

General Shale brick is natural material with the same range and texture as full bed brick. Thin brick has an average thickness of ½". The maximum product weight is less than 15 psf.

Applications

General Shale thin brick is applicable for installations to wood stud frame, metal stud frame, exterior rated cement board, concrete masonry, and poured concrete construction. Polymer modified mortars are preferred, however, type S mortar conforming to ASTM C 270 can also be used. In hot weather, type N may also be used for better workability. Thin brick units should not be installed when ambient temperatures are below 40°F unless cold weather masonry construction requirements per ACI 530.1-13 Section 1.8C are followed.

Masonry Applications

Thin brick may be installed directly to new concrete masonry units (CMU) or concrete surfaces. No metal lath or water- resistive barrier is required with these applications. Previously exposed surfaces that have been stained, sealed, painted, or treated should be sand blasted to insure proper mortar bond. Thin brick units shall be set in a ½" to ¾" setting bed of type S mortar. To set thin brick units, fully butter the back side and set in place. Allow the brick to set for 24 hours before grouting. Use a grout mixture that is the same mortar type and tool when thumbprint hard.

Wood or Metal Frame Applications

Installation shall include a water-resistive vapor-permeable barrier with a performance at least equivalent to two (2) layers of grade D paper. Preferred application is the Laticrete MVIS system adhered to cement board using Laticrete Thin Brick Mortar and a drainage mat. For additional installation details, reference the applicable MVIS Technical Bulletin on the General Shale website ([Technical Bulletins & Documents](#)). As an alternate, a properly installed lath and scratch method can be used. Corrosion resistant metal lath and corrosion resistant lath attachments shall be installed in accordance with ASTM C 1063 every 6" on center. Metal lath shall conform to ASTM Specification for Metal Lath C 847. Apply a ⅜" to ½" thick scratch coat to metal lath. Use a ¼" notched trowel and leave all notches horizontal. Allow scratch coat to cure a minimum of 24 hours. Set thin brick units in a

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$\frac{3}{8}$ " to $\frac{3}{4}$ " thick setting bed applied over scratch coat. The entire back surface of the brick must be covered with mortar. Total mortar thickness behind thin brick units shall not exceed $1\frac{1}{4}$ ". Allow the brick to set for 24 hours before grouting. Use a grout mixture that is the same mortar type and tool when thumbprint hard.

Workmanship

It is essential that all voids are eliminated. The back of every brick must be completely embedded in mortar. Joints ($\frac{3}{8}$ " recommended) must be full and well tooled. Dry stack patterns are NOT recommended.

Estimating

General Shale's thin brick is packaged as flats and corners as follows:

Package Size	Flat Units	Corner Units
Box	7 sq. ft.	5 linear ft. (approx. 3.75 sq. ft.)

Quantities based on $\frac{3}{8}$ " mortar joint. Adjust quantities for corner unit coverage as indicated above.

Cleaning

In general, thin brick units should be kept clean as work progresses. Mortar smears should be removed by gentle dry brushing at the end of work periods. For general cleaning, bucket and brush hand cleaning methods described in BIA Technical Note #20, with non-acidic detergent cleaners is recommended. Pressure wash cleaning methods should not be used.

This product is made from natural materials. Some variation in color or texture may occur, and no warranties apply. General Shale brick and all product color names listed are trademarks of the General Shale company. Material Safety Data Sheets are available on request.